Scheme, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Bharat Nirman (Irrigation, drinking water, roads, rural electrification, housing, and telephone connectivity) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). The major programme for addressing the problem of regional imbalances is the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) which was launched in 2006-07 to catalyze development in backward areas through two components, namely, (i) Districts Component covering 250 backward districts and (ii) Special Plans for Bihar and the Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) the Backward Regions Grant Fund launched in 2006-07 will continue during the Eleventh Plan. During 2007-08 and 2008-09, a provision of Rs. 5,800 crore has been made annually.

Monthly remuneration for hockey players

*379. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hockey players selected in the National Team are entitled to monthly remuneration;

(b) if so, the details of amount paid to each player, separately for men and women players;

(c) whether Government is aware of reports of delays in payment to these players;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to avoid such delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) No, Sir. No monthly remuneration is paid by the Government to any player, including hockey players.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Shortage of housing units

*380. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a shortage of three crore housing units in the country;

(b) if so, the number of units Government proposes to build during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period particularly for the people of low and medium income group in the country;

(c) whether Government would provide special incentives to private sector for this purpose; and

(d) the number of Government sponsored projects going on with the details of projects, city-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The Technical Group on Estimation of Housing Shortage constituted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has estimated the total housing shortage in the country to be 24.7 million at the beginning of the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Housing is a state subject. However, under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched by the Government in December, 2005, the Central Government assists the States/Union Territories by way of Addtional Central Assistance (ACA) for provision of housing and basic services to the urban poor. The Sub-Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) covers 63 identified cities. Other cities/towns are covered under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). About 1.5 million houses are contemplated for construction for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Groups (LIG) under JNNURM over the mission period 2005—2012.

The National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy (NUHHP)-2007 encourages Public Private Partnership relating to construction of houses.

By the end of financial year 2007-08, 274 projects for 7,87,111 dwelling units with total project cost of Rs. 17421.11 crore have been approved under the BSUP and 422 projects for 2,59,200 dwelling units with total project cost of Rs. 4009.90 crore have been approved under the IHSDP for urban poor/slum dwellers. City-wise details of projects approved under BSUP and IHSDP are given in the Annexure (See Appendix 213 AnnexureNo. 9).

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Nuclear power/fuel supply

2637. SHRIBHAGIRATHIMAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been receiving any nuclear power/fuel supply from any country so far;

(b) if so, the amount of nuclear power/fuel supply received from different country so far, year-wise; and

(c) if so, the total amount of money spent against these supply to different countries by Indian Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRJTHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) TAPS 1&2 (2x160 MWe) use imported low enriched uranium fuel. Fuel for these reactors has been imported from various countries including USA, France, China and the Russian Federation.

(b) and (c) It is not in public interest to disclose the information.

Shortage of uranium in atomic power stations

†2638. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) total number of atomic power stations across the country and power generated by them every year during last three years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.